

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 RABAT 00811 121507Z

73

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 AGR-05 IGA-01 SP-02

AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01

OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02 FDRE-00

/075 W

----- 126032

R 121326Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4600

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 0811

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON MO

SUBJ: GOM REQUEST FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE

REF: RABAT 0680

1. AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE HAS RECEIVED INDICATIONS FROM PRIVATE GRAIN TRADERS SUGGESTING THAT TOTAL GOM IMPORT NEEDS FOR 75-76 CROP YEAR ARE LIKELY TO BE SOMETHING ON THE ORDER OF 2 MILLION TONS. THIS CONFIRMS OUR IMPRESSION THAT 3 MILLION TON FIGURE REQUESTED FROM U.S. BY FINANCE MINISTER (REFTEL) WAS HIGH. WE BELIEVE FINANCE MINISTER'S REQUEST WAS EFFORT TO HEDGE AGAINST CRISIS COUNTRY WOULD FACE BY NEXT FALL UNDER WORST POSSIBLE ASSUMPTIONS, I.E., CONTINUED DROUGHT THROUGHOUT REST OF CURRENT RAINY SEASON. GIVEN DROUGHT CONDITIONS UNTIL MID-JANUARY AND PAUCITY OF RAIN THEREAFTER, THIS WOULD HAVE MEANT VIRTUALLY NO HARVEST THIS YEAR WITHIN MOROCCO. IN CONTRAST GENERAL CONSENSUS IS THAT MOROCCO MIGHT BE ABLE TO PRODUCE 30 PER CENT OF A NORMAL YEAR'S PRODUCTION IF RAINFALL DURING THE BALANCE OF CURRENT RAINY SEASON IS FAVORABLE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 RABAT 00811 121507Z

2. WIDESPREAD RAINFALL OVER PAST WEEKEND GIVES RISE TO HOPE THAT PRIVATE TRADE ESTIMATES FOR NEXT YEAR'S IMPORT REQUIREMENTS WILL BE CLOSER TO MARK THAN THAT OF MINISTER OF FINANCE. MORE RAIN WILL HOWEVER BE NEEDED IN COMING WEEKS IF THIS EXPECTATION IS TO BE BORNE OUT.

3. IF WORST SITUATION DEVELOPS, IMPORT NEEDS COULD GO ABOVE 2.0 MILLION TONS. THEN LIMITING FACTORS COULD WELL BE PORT, HANDLING, AND STORAGE FACILITIES.

4. EMBASSY HAD A REPORT THAT 1.4 MILLION TONS OF GRAIN PURCHASED FROM U.S. EXPORTERS AT \$140 PER TON FOLLOWING COLLAPSE OF SOVIET AND CHINESE SALES. AG ATTACHE CHECKED WITH TRADE SOURCE WHO DEBUNKED THIS STORY. SOURCE SAID DIRECTOR CEREALS OFFICE JUST DEPARTED FOR CANADA WITH MIN AG. REPORTS ARE HE WILL SIGN GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONTRACT WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT PROBABLY WITH CREDIT TERMS ATTACHED.

5. CONSENSUS IS THAT WITH 400 THOUSAND TONS ALREADY ORDERED AND 100 THOUSAND TONS SOON PROBABLY TO BE ORDERED FROM CANADA, MOROCCO WILL NEED TO IMPORT ABOUT 1.5 MILLION TONS OF GRAIN FOR THE REST OF 1975. IF FURTHER SETBACKS BEFALL THE CROP, IMPORT NEEDS COULD CLIMB TO TOTAL FIGURE EXCEEDING 2 MILLION TONS.

6. FURTHER MORE PRECISE INFORMATION IS BEING GENERATED AND WILL BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.
NEUMANN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975RABAT00811
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750051-0571
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750250/aaaabsnf.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 RABAT 0680
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOM REQUEST FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE
TAGS: ECON, MO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006